

Mental Health Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes 11/25/14

In attendance: Lindsay Daskalopoulos, Sharon Foley, Ann Horgan, Lyn Hostetler, Bob Houghtaling, Nina Macta, Carolyn Mark, Nora Santamour, Rachel Silverman, Brad Wilson, Peggy Bonk

I. Finalize goals/work plan for 2014/15 school year

Stakeholder work group:

Worked to identify stakeholders. Youth. Parents. Service providers (community and school based). Teachers/Staff/Administrators. Need to figure out methods for involving various groups in the work of the MH subcommittee. Next meeting, need to hash out: What does stakeholder engagement look like between now and the end of the year?

Program assessment work group:

Observation that we tend to be proactive at the elementary level, and more reactive at the middle and high school level. Need to ID best practices in different buildings and try to replicate them. Need principal buy in. Focus on maximizing Mental Health Awareness Month. Go after "low hanging fruit" types of activities, such as "Tips for Teachers". Opportunities to incorporate relaxation methods to alleviate stress (Go Noodle? yoga, etc). Some of this could be done

during Advisory with teachers training teachers on methods that work.

Data collection work group:

Looking to track student activity in terms of number of visits, and figure out how to merge data. Shawna offered up Google forms as a way to enter and manage data. Concerns about confidentiality. Thinking about 2 tiers of data collection. Tier 1: Name, date, referral, nature of visit. Tier 2: only shared with social workers and school psychs. Looking to create a mock up with fake students to see how it would work. Need to consult w/ Vic Babson, benchmark with others (David Kane, attorneys), HIPPA - RIDE. Needs assessment vs. functional tool. Work group will provide a progress report on 12/19.

District resources work group:

Didn't meet because key folks were not able to attend, but Jen Condon submitted a written update. From Jen:

- has a very large set of electronic resources regarding symptoms, definitions, treatment and brochures

- has electronic formats of Nina's teen link and Sharon's parent guide.

Will use some of the info in the next step of info collecting, and will look into putting entire booklets online (need to see what's already up on the egisd website)

- has a new email MentalHealthRI@gmail.com

- has left message with the contact at Washington County website to see if we can use their template and some of their information

II. First Responder Grant Update: Looking to train 25 staff this coming year and 25 staff the following year. Brad and Nina are getting names of staff persons from each of our school buildings. Looking to have people who don't necessarily have any background in mental health. If teachers get pulled from classrooms for this training, the district will need to provide subs. Looking to include paras, front office staff, PE teachers, nurses, art, music, librarians. Focus on involving itinerants in off-site training because they are harder to pull together. Teachers can be brought together on site, in faculty meetings, etc.

III. Review action items, determine next steps, and set next meeting date

- Carolyn to email school principals? (Need to get them on board and ok with talking to their staff about various aspects of the MH subcommittee work.) Need to consult with Dr. Mercurio first.**
- Progress report from data collection work group.**
- Additional item to explore (Shawna): PowerPoint in Health classes on Narcan. Perhaps partner with CWC. Need to design it for a cross section of kids. Open forum kind of format. Pick up at next meeting.**
- Next meeting Friday, December 19 @ 10am.**